

**From:** DSNTelecom@aol.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/9/01 4:32pm  
**Subject:** Our company is concerned...

Department of Justice,

I speak for all of us here at DSN Communications when I say that we are extremely concerned about the proposed settlement regarding the people vs microsoft. It is far too watered down of a settlement and doesn't provide ample punishment for Bill Gates and his abuse of our proud capitalistic system. One wonders where justice ends and partisanship begins with the acceptance of this agreement on the part of the DOJ.

We here at DSN who have been on the edge of computers since 1977, have a few suggestions for a settlement that will better protect the rights of the people, and put the "trust" back into the equation; one that looks away from the questionable direction the DOJ has taken with the new presidential administration.

1. Allow Linux, a proven and reliable PC-based Operating System to make inroads into education through Red Hat Linux's equal offer vs. the Microsoft's donation. The creator of Linux, Linus Torvalds, wanted a free alternative to the Microsoft madness, and created Linux for the people. Microsoft should be forced to make their applications available in Linux versions. Apple is also a very big friend of education, and has continually proven an ally to them -- unlike Microsoft who now uses a large donation to education (tax break) as a bartering chip vs justice. Whoever fulfills the educational need isn't as important as who doesn't -- Microsoft. If you allow Microsoft to weasel out of punishment with a huge tax break, you will not only have betrayed the people of America and our founding principles, but you will allow and actually usher-in Microsoft, Inc. to dominate yet another area, education, with their unscrupulous and monopolistic practices.

2. !IMPORTANT! Force microsoft to provide source code for the IE web browser. Microsoft's unwillingness to share source code has already driven a new exciting company, Netcape, to be swallowed up by AOL/TimeWarner, another huge monopolistic company. Marc Andreessen, a young and bright mind, invented HTML and the browser with the help of others and started Netscape. Bill Gates not only stole his idea, but forced Netscape out of business by the practice of withholding source code for Windows. Without this code, Netscape's Navigator web browser could not function properly. Netscape slowly lost its market share to Microsoft's IE Explorer as a result. This was after continual requests and pleas from Netscape to work with Microsoft. This is simply scandalous and downright wrong.

3. Lastly and controversially, we believe Microsoft should be broken into 2 separate companies. One company could handle the IE web browser and all program-based applications, while the second would focus on the the operating system and making it work with everything out there to spur competition, and provide a more favorable arena for the kind of competition that our country is founded on.

SO,

DSN Communication supports the decision of the 9 states to continue on against microsoft despite the obvious "influenced" decision of the DOJ as of late (Bush administration). We frown on the DOJ's protection of big corporate interests and putting those interests before those of the people. We disapprove of how you are handling yourselves regarding the watered-down and so-called "settlement" proposed

by/for microsoft. Get some backbone boys, you've got a job to do, so go fix the problem. Do NOT rally around Mr. "Moneybags" Gates like he's some hero. He's a criminal, remember? ...something about being found guilty, REMEMBER?!?

Sincerely,  
David S. Nichols  
Owner - DSN Communications